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Title: The Dark Path - Volume I.

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## STEPS ALONG THE WAY

Thus we understand  
the factors that  
compel a magician to  
follow his arcane  
study, and the  
motivations that guide  
him throughout his  
life. Once the  
sorcerer has chosen  
his vocation, we must  
now ask which steps  
will he take?  
Becoming a magician is  
not as simple as taking  
a class or reading a  
book. Sorcery for  
Idiots does not exist  
(yet), and should such  
a book be written, it  
would truly exist for  
the fool naive enough  
to think all the secrets  
of the universe can be  
found in 150 pages.

...ooOoOoo...

## THE STARVING STUDENT

The potential magus  
peels alienated from  
his society at an early  
age. And he  
recognizes the  
Yearning and moves to  
fulfill it, he begins a  
lifelong search for  
the Otherworld.

The mundane arts  
provide a common  
draw - anything  
that affords the  
hungry child and  
opportunity to state

his Yearning becomes  
a treat for the seeker.  
Creativity is the soul  
of the Universe, and  
few people truly  
connect with it,  
magician or not.

The sensations of the  
flesh - offer another  
fleeting lure as the  
hungry magus tries  
again and again to  
either open his  
senses to the world, or  
to close them  
completely. For some  
searchers, delirium is  
only a tool, a means of  
ecstasy that is later  
abandoned. For  
others, it becomes an  
addiction or obsession,  
trapping the student in  
his own  
self-absorption.

Finally, esoteric  
philosophies offer  
their guiding light.  
The mystic paths that  
once truly ushered a  
man or woman to new  
states of  
consciousness have  
been diluted with  
profiteering  
half-truths. A  
questing student often  
passes from  
philosophy to  
philosophy, keenly  
drawing authentic  
esotericism from  
mindless drivel. Most  
seekers are content to  
dance naked on the  
moonlight, bantering  
about different planes  
of existence and the  
power of crystals  
without ever truly  
realizing their quest.

Thus, the first step  
along the path is often  
the last. Magically  
inclined searchers  
satisfy their  
Yearnings through  
any number of means,

spurious or genuine.  
Few of them truly  
reach the Otherworld  
they seek; they might  
brush against it now  
and then, but fail to  
grasp the prize when  
they find it. Fewer  
still recognize the  
Yearning for what it  
is: a genuine numinous  
experience, a spiritual  
revelation.

Few are lucky  
enough to find the  
true path, obscured  
among the bramble and  
thorns of modern  
esoterism. There, a  
searcher finds some  
font of truth and  
immerses himself in  
its cold, mysterious  
water.

...ooOoOoo...